

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FOR RCE
Appl. No. 10/086,518
Amendment dated August 31, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed June 22, 2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Entry of the above amendments is courteously requested in order to place all claims in this application in allowable condition and/or to place the non-allowed claims in better condition for consideration on appeal.

Claims 1 through 23 have been cancelled, and claims 24 through 37 have been added. No claims have been withdrawn.

Previously Presented Claims

Claims 9 through 14, 16 through 18 and 20 through 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Lee et al. (5774337).

Claims 9 through 14, 16 through 18, and 20 through 23 have been cancelled, and therefore the rejection of these claims is submitted to be moot.

Newly Added Claims

Added claim 24 requires, in part, "a chassis having a front plane for orienting toward a user during use of the system and a rear plane", "said hinge being configured to rotate said bracket about a hinging axis between an open position and a closed position", and "wherein the closed position of said bracket being characterized by said bracket being located between the front plane and the rear plane of said chassis, the open position of said bracket being characterized by said bracket being located forwardly of the front plane of said chassis". These features and relationships of the invention, as described in the specification and shown in the drawing Figures of the application as filed, permit devices that are mounted on the bracket to be moved into the open position which is located forwardly of the front plane of the chassis. This capability is deemed to be highly

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significant, as the operation of moving the bracket, and devices mounted on the bracket, is made easier and safer.

The movement of the bracket from the closed position to the open position is made easier because the devices in most, if not all, electronic systems, are located at the front of the chassis (especially if they are storage devices to thereby permit the user to access the devices to remove and replace removable media such as magnetic and optical disks). Since the movement of the bracket from the closed position to the open position simply moves the bracket (and any attached devices) forwardly, the user is required to lift less of the weight of the devices, since in most cases the devices will simply be rotating about their fronts. In contrast, in a system such as is shown in the Lee patent, the devices move laterally through a side of the chassis, one or more of the devices must be raised upwardly into the air at a much greater height if the fronts of the devices are located at the front of the chassis. This contrast is especially well illustrated in Figure 2 of the present application, where it is shown that moving the bracket from the closed position to the open position merely tips devices attached to the bracket in a forward direction, and the front of the devices is actually lower than in the closed position. Figure 5 of the Lee patent shows that in an "open" position, all of the devices have been raised up, and those devices located furthest away from the side of the chassis on which the subchassis is raised a significant distance into the air above the level of the chassis. It is believed that the claimed invention permits a significantly easier movement of the bracket (and any devices attached thereto) from the closed position to the open position.

Further, it is submitted that the claimed invention produces an assembly that is safer to maintain in the open position, as the claimed invention permits any devices attached to the bracket to simply be tipped forwardly without significantly raising the devices or significantly shifting

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the center of gravity of the assembly so as to make the chassis with the bracket in the open position unstable. In contrast, an assembly such as is shown in the Lee patent has a subassembly that holds at least some of the devices relatively high in the air with respect to the chassis.

Therefore, it is submitted that positioning the hinging axis so that the bracket, and any devices attached thereto, pivot through the front plane (rather through a plane of a side of the chassis) makes the movement of the bracket easier and makes the assembly safer when in the open position, than the structures known in the art.

Added claims 25 through 37 simply further define the elements and relationships of the invention in more detail.


Claims 24 through 37 are submitted to be allowable over the prior art.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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